RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 2813
PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 5649-874

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Hag-ju Cho
Serial No.: 09/893,035
Filed: June 27, 2001

Confirmation No.: 3421
Examiner: Erik J. Kielin
Group Art Unit: 2813

For: METHODS OF MANUFACTURING INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICES

THAT INCLUDE A METAL OXIDE LAYER DISPOSED ON ANOTHER LAYER TO PROTECT THE OTHER LAYER FROM DIFFUSION OF

IMPURITIES AND INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICES MANUFACTURED

USING SAME

Date: January 2, 2003 FAX RECEIVED

Box AF Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 JAN n 2 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This is a full and timely response to the Final Office Action mailed October 2, 2002 that contains remarks as set forth hereafter. Independent Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0006835 having Kim et al. as inventors (hereinafter "Kim"). It is submitted that, for the purposes of 35 U.S.C. §102(e), the Kim application is not prior art against the claimed invention. In accordance with §102(e), the effective date of the Kim application is its U.S. filling date, December 19, 2000. The present application, however, claims priority to Korean Patent Application No. 00-35708, which was filed in Korea on June 27, 2000. In accordance with MPEP §201.13, an Applicant may rely on foreign priority to overcome the effects of an intervening reference. To perfect Applicant's priority claim, Applicant submits hereiwth a certified English translation of Korean Patent Application No. 00-35708. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is patentable over Kim and that dependent Claims 2 - 13 are patentable for at least the reason that they depend from an allowable claim.

Independent Claim 1 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Korean Patent Publication No. 2000-25706 (hereinafter "25706 Publication" in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,203,613 to Gates et al. (hereinafter "Gates").

Jamy to enter 1/15/03